

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-6. Canceled.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for making a wood slat, the method comprising:

providing a first bulk section of wood;

cutting the first bulk section along first parallel planes in a successive first order to form successive separate sections, the sections defining first parallel planes and forming a plurality of first slats each having a face plane ~~separate wood pieces in a desired shape;~~

rejoining the face planes ~~each of said plurality of the first slats~~ separate wood pieces in an a different order different than the first order to create ~~forma~~ new bulk section in the form of a laminate ~~with lines disposed between each adjacent pair of wood pieces; and~~

cutting the new bulk section along second parallel planes to form the wood slat ~~a second set of successive sections defining second parallel planes, the second parallel planes being generally transverse perpendicular to said the first parallel planes, the second set of successive sections forming a plurality of wood slats with each wood~~

~~slat defining a length and exposing a plurality of the lines disposed side by side and
extending throughout the length.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of making a wood slat of claim 7, wherein the first bulk section of wood has joining marks that appear in the face planes of the first slats and that are substantially hidden in the wood slat, ~~and wherein the method effectively hides the joining marks.~~

9. Canceled.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of making a wood slat having hidden joining marks of claim 8, wherein the first ~~said~~ bulk section is in the form of a rectangular block.

11. Canceled.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of making a wood slat having hidden joining marks of claim 8, wherein each of the ~~said~~ plurality of wood slats has ~~have~~ a thin rectangular shape.

13. (Currently Amended) A wood slat prepared by a process comprising:
providing a bulk section of wood;

cutting successive sections of the bulk section of wood, the sections defining first parallel planes and forming a plurality of individual ~~separate~~ wood pieces in the desired shape;

rejoining ~~the each of said~~ plurality of individual ~~separate~~ wood pieces in a different order to form a new bulk section ~~with lines disposed between the rejoined wood pieces~~; and

cutting the new bulk section along ~~a second set of successive sections~~ defining second parallel planes, the second parallel planes being transverse perpendicular to the said first parallel planes so that the wood slat has a desirable veneer appearance ~~the second set of successive sections forming a plurality of wood slats having the desired veneer look.~~

14. Canceled.

15. (Original) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, wherein said bulk section is in the form of a rectangular block.

16. (Currently Amended) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, wherein each of the said plurality of wood pieces ~~are first, manufactured slats that~~ have a thin rectangular shape.

17. (Currently Amended) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, wherein the second cutting step provides the wood slat with ~~each of said plurality of wood slats have~~ a thin rectangular shape.

18. Canceled.

19. Canceled.

20. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the second parallel planes are generally perpendicular to the first parallel planes.

21. (New) The wood slat of claim 17, wherein the second parallel planes are generally perpendicular to the first parallel planes.

22. (New) A finished wood slat, comprising:
multiple first manufactured wood slats each having a first face plane and at least one zig-zag joining line exposed on the first face plane,
the multiple first manufactured wood slats being laminated together and sliced along a direction perpendicular to the first face planes of the first manufactured wood slats to produce second manufactured wood slats each having a second face plane free of any exposed zig-zag joining lines.

23. (New) A finished wood slat, comprising:
a long thin rectangular shape having a final face of the finished wood slat,
the final face being defined by periphery edges of a plurality of first manufactured slats each having a face plane containing joining marks in an undesirable pattern,
the face planes being generally transverse to the periphery edges of the first manufactured slats so that the undesirable patterns of the joining marks are not exposed in the final face of the finished wood slat.

24. (New) The wood slat of claim 21, wherein the undesirable pattern of the joining marks is a zig-zag pattern.

25. (New) The wood slat of claim 21, wherein the long thin rectangular shape is a laminate.

26. (New) The wood slat of claim 23, wherein the laminate is formed with at least one adhesion plane joining the face planes of an adjacent pair of the first manufactured slats.

27. (New) The wood slat of claim 21, wherein the plurality of first manufactured slats are selectively cut to preferred dimensions, and wherein the finished wood slat is selectively cut to preferred dimensions.

28. (New) The finished wood slat of claim 21, wherein the second parallel planes are generally perpendicular to the first parallel planes.